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BOOK NOTICES

The Beginnings of the Church. By Ernest F. Scott. New York: Scribner, 1914. Pp. 282. $1.50 net.

Ten lectures delivered by Professor Scott at Union Theological Seminary on the Ely Foundation in the winter of 1914 constitute this volume. They deal with the most difficult questions of Christian origins: the origin of the church, the gift of the Spirit, Jesus as Lord, baptism, the Lord's Supper, etc. The discussions of these matters are intelligent, critical, sympathetic, and illuminating in a high degree. Professor Scott's work bears especially upon the obscure interval between the death of Jesus and the letters of Paul. The extent and character of Paul's indebtedness to the earlier Christian group and the relation of the early church to the mystery cults are treated with balance and discrimination. Professor Scott is one from whom we have learned to expect much, and this admirable presentation of the best modern opinion on the beginnings of the church fully meets our expectations.

Die Oden Salomos, ueberarbeitet oder einheitlich? Mit 2 Beilagen: I. Bibliographie der Oden Salomos. II. Syrische Konkordanz der Oden Salomos. By Gerhard Kittel. (Beitraege zur Wissenschaft vom Alten Testament, Heft 16.) Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1914. Pp. 180.

Kittel first discusses the stylistic homogeneity of the Odes, and then takes them up one at a time from the point of view of the interpolations which several critics have found in them, showing that these may generally be better understood as original parts of the ode in which they stand. His work is systematic and candid and his conclusion has much to commend it. The classified bibliography of 165 books, articles, and reviews which have already been called out by the Odes is very valuable, and there is a useful Syriac concordance or rather index of all the words of any importance occurring in the Odes.

The Gospel according to St. Luke. The Greek Text Edited with Introduction and Notes for the Use of Schools. By W. F. Burnside. Cambridge: University Press, 1913. Pp. 272. 3s. net.

The Cambridge Greek Testament for schools represents an interesting effort to adapt the Greek Testament to school use. To that end much sound learning and good pedagogical feeling have been wrought into this volume on Luke. There is an introduction, and the text of Westcott-Hort is then printed, divided into what Mr. Burnside thinks its principal divisions. This is followed by copious notes—linguistic, historical, and exegetical. The difficulties attaching to Luke's chronological statements might have been more boldly dealt with, and the infancy narratives are taken somewhat too literally. At some points the treatment is conventional rather than historical. The work is carefully and painstakingly done, though there are several inaccuracies in the Greek index (cols. 3, 5, 6, 7).

St. Paul and Christianity. By A. C. Headlam. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1913. Pp. xiv+214. $1.25.

A sound, scholarly treatment of the theology of St. Paul by the professor of dogmatic theology in King's College, London. The author knows the literature of the subject and the modern problems and maintains the conservative position. For him the Atonement is the central fact in the theology of St. Paul. Paul was and remained a Jew. There was little influence of Greek thought upon him.

The Offices of Baptism and Confirmation. By F. Thompson. (In the Cambridge Liturgical Handbooks.) New York: Putnam, 1914. Pp. x+253. $2.00.

This volume studies in detail the offices of Baptism and Confirmation in the different liturgies of the Catholic church. The practices of lay-baptism and of immersion and affusion are examined carefully. In connection with the mode of baptism, the archaeological evidence, unknown of old controversists, is taken into consideration. There is of course no controversy in this book but an exposition of facts. The author is a priest of the Anglican church.

The Book of Genesis. By H. E. Ryle. (In the Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges.) Cambridge (England): University Press; New York: Putnam, 1914. Pp. lxviii+477. $1.50.

This is a welcome addition to this series. Dean Ryle has a sound judgment and is well informed. He does not adopt any rash theory, whether it be advanced or conservative, and for this reason this volume will remain a good textbook for several years to come. The parallels from Babylonian and Egyptian documents are accurate. Perhaps it would have been better if the author had not reproduced, facing

p. 8, the diagram representing the Semitic conception of the universe, contributed by Principal O. C. Whitehouse to Hastings' *Dictionary of the Bible*, where the moon turns her illuminated side away from the sun. Except for this small detail, for which Dean Ryle is not responsible, his book deserves a hearty commendation. It is well printed and of a very low price.

Problems of Boyhood. By Franklin W. Johnson. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1914. Pp. xxv+130. $1.00.

The readers of the *Biblical World* will not need an introduction to this volume which appeared originally in a series of chapters in this magazine. The value of the book lies, not only in its good sense, which is abounding, but also in the fact that it is written to meet actual needs of actual young men whom Professor Johnson was engaged in teaching. This makes it a practical book and one which can be used with inevitable success among boys of high-school age.

Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics. Vol. VI, Fiction–Hyksos. Edited by James Hastings. New York: Scribner, 1914. Pp. xviii+890.

We have become so accustomed to expecting the highest grade of work in this dictionary that there is a danger that we shall take the present volume as a matter of course, but any careful reading of the volume will produce rather the impression of admiration and astonishment. The scale of treatment is still catholic, and every article, so far as the reviewer has examined them, indicates thoroughly honest work.

In the present volume the outstanding articles are those on "God," the "Gospels," and "Greek Religion." And yet such exhaustive articles as those on "Human Sacrifice," "Hinduism," and "Heredity" are certainly not to be overlooked. The article on the "Greek Orthodox Church" is a splendid example of compressed encyclopedic treatment. The article on the "Gospels" is a good summary by Professor Burkitt and is a compact exposition of the various theories connected with the origin of the Gospels. The dates on the whole are rather late and the article will doubtless serve to check the tendency of certain recent writers to date the Gospels rather early. Professor Burkitt cannot bring Mark prior to 65, Matthew to 80, and John to 100.

For light on modern thinking, we particularly commend to our readers the article on "Heredity." It really consists of two articles, one an exposition of biological facts with special relation to Mendel's law, and the other an extension of the theories of heredity into ethics and religion. We are inclined to enter a mild caveat to the conclusion of the latter article, although we have sympathy with the author's fear of a too hasty application of the Mendelian law to the field of social morality.

Altogether, the new volume more than confirms our conviction as to the immense importance of the study. It should be in the hands of every careful student.

The Philosophy of Christ's Temptation. By George S. Painter. Boston: Sherman, French & Co., 1914. Pp. 333. $1.50.

Many books have been published on the subject of the temptation of Jesus. They are often of such a kind that it is a relief to turn to Dr. Painter's book. The author moves at ease in the domain of modern psychology, he is familiar with scientific results in the study of the Bible, and, what is just as important, he is in touch with the spiritual meaning of religion. The idealized Christ of the temptation story is not quite the historical Jesus; the ethical and religious drama of the temptation as we have it has been, to a great extent, lifted up into the realm of the universal so that it stands as typical of all possible temptations. Christ's life is a work of art, and, like all true art, it unifies and vitalizes the lives of men. The teaching of the temptation story is that thought fashions character and that it is mainly developed in solitude or reasonable privacy; the secret place, the place of prayer, becomes the place of self-revelation, where man becomes himself; he finds God when he meets the highest demands of his soul. Dr. Painter's book will reveal to the reflecting mind an intense meaning in the temptation of Christ. It will appeal mostly to those who are as dissatisfied with cheap and tawdry conceptions of religion as well as with cold and lifeless unbelief; it will help them upward. When Christ is so understood, he does lift men unto himself.

Vital Problems of Religion. By J. R. Cohu. New York: Scribner, 1914. Pp. xiv+289.

This is a fascinating book, not because it contains much that is new, but because it rings true. The author believes in personal religion as the key to theology. His chapter on the revelation of the "Living God through Evolution" is fresh and timely; it shows how evolution is the final reply to ancient materialism and how religion can rightly interpret it as the revelation of a Mind dwelling in Nature. The style of the author is racy and lucid. Preachers will find it inspiring.

The Bible as Literature. By Irving Francis Wood and Elihu Grant. New York: Abingdon Press, 1914. Pp. 346. $1.50.

This volume belongs to a series of Bible-study textbooks for the use of undergraduate classes in colleges. It deals with the Bible as